SOME NEW BOOKS. Samuel J. Tilden.

SECOND ARTICLE.

The war was over. There was no longer any ground for the enforcement of the maxim, silent leges inter arma. The rôle of constitu tional opposition, which had been so difficult and daugerous amid the strain of civil war, nov commended itself alike to the instincts of the people and to the sense of duty of far-sighted atriots. That rôle manifestly belonged to the Democratic party as the representative of decentralizing traditions. But it was equally evident that the party could recover public cor fidence only under the leadership of men who had opposed the extension of slavery to the Territories and had denied the right of secession Such a man was Mr. Tilden, and happily for the fortunes of the Democracy in the Empire State and in the Union, he now, at the age of 53, reentered public life. He was elected a delegate from New York city to the Convention called to revise the Constitution of the State in 1867. The st conspicuous feature of his service in that body was his successful resistance to a scheme for the enlargement of the Eric Canal. To the surprise of most, if not all, of his colleagues he onstrated the folly of incurring an expense of twenty or thirty millions of dollars to enlarge the canal by showing that, as it was, if properly cleaned and worked, it would suffice for the business that was ever likely to be required of it. "It is," he said, "an enlargement of the capacity of the men who administer the canal that is now wanted, and not an enlargement of the canal." Mr. Tilden was unquestionably a high authority on the subject canal transportation, and his biographer thinks that no one should now attempt to deal ficially or unofficially, with the managemen of the New York canal system without mastering the contents of his speech upon the subject

Scarcely had Mr. Tilden finished his labors in the Constitutional Convention, when he was precipitated into a struggle upon which he had more at stake than upon any other crisis of his life. We refer to his fight against the corrupt organization known as the "Tweed Ring." In 1866 he had been chosen Chairman of the Democratic State Committee to succeed Dean Richmond. He has himself stated his motives for taking this position, which he had accepted with great rejuctance. "I desired." he said. "to save from degradation the great party whose principles and traditions were mine by inheritance and conviction, and to make it an instrument of reaction in the community could alone save free government. Holding wearily the end of a rope, because feared where it might go if I dropped it, I kept the State organization in absolute independence of the corrupt combination in the city of New York. I never took a favor of any sort from these men, or from any man I distrusted. I had not much power in the Legislature on questions which interested private cupidity, but, in s State Convention where the best men in society and business would go, because it was for but a day or two, those with whom I acted generally majority." Knowing Mr. Tilden's dis trust of them, and his influence in the State. the Tweed Ring attempted to have him deposed by the State Convention of 1869 from the Chairmanship of the State Committee, that they might secure the control of the Democratic State organization. Mr. Tilden accepted the challenge to battle and defeated them by the adverse vote of seven-eighths of the Convention. Mr. Tilden now struck back. His first act of aggression was to participate in an attempt to organize the legal profession against the corruption which had invaded the bench. In December of the year 1869 Mr. Tilden united with a few leading members of the New York bar in a call for a meeting, at which the Bar Associan was formed. At that meeting he said : the bar is to become merely a mode of making money, making it in the most convenient way possible, but making it at all hazthen the bar is degraded. If the bar is to be merely an institution that seeks to win causes, and win them by backdoor access to the judiciary, then it is not only degraded, but it is corrupt. The bar, if it is to continue to exist, if it would restore itself to the dignity and honor which it once possessed, must be bold and aggressive. If it will do its duty to itself, if it will do its duty to the profession which it follows and to which it is devoted, the bar can do everything else. It can have reformed Constitutions: it can have a reformed judiciary; it can have the administration of justice made pure and honorable, and can restore both the judictary and the bar until it shall be once more, as it formerly was, an honorable and elevated

Mr. Tilden's next aim was to defeat the efforts of the Tweed Ring to secure the control of the Legislature to be elected in November, 1871. The two dissenting voices, to hand New York city over to the depredations of Tweed and his confederates, were not to come again within reach when their successors would be chosen. All hope of rescuing the city from their hands depended upon recovering the legislative power of the State by securing a majority of the Senate and Assembly. To this end Mr. Tilden directed all his endeavors. He was not an officeholder, and he had not a dollar's worth of patronage in the city or State. Exactly through what agencies or by what instrumentalities he should overcome the opposing faction he did not know, planted himself upon the moral forces of the community he was defending, and he was sustained by the kind of courage that casts out fear. As it is known, Providence came to his aid. The thieves fell out, and one of their number betrayed them. A clerk in the Comp. troller's office copied a series of entries, afterward known as the secret accounts, and handed them to the press for publication. Then came the resignation of Connolly, the Comptroller and one of Tweed's instruments, and the transfor of his office to Mr. Green. The acquisition e Comptrollership by the reformers was a fatal embarrassment to the ring. All subsequent investigations were fruits of the possession of that office. The first, and for a long time the only judicial proof of the frauds committed was fur. aished by the Broadway Bank investigation. This occupied Mr. Tilden and some four or five assistants about ten days. The analysis of the results and their application as proofs were made by him, as well as the original discovery of the relation of the numbers which was the clue to the whole revelation. The information thus secured established the fact that but one-third of the nominal amount of the bills sanctioned by the Board of Audit had ever reached the persons who pretended to be entitled to the payments; and that two-thirds had divided among public officers and their accomplices, into whose bands some of the dividends were actually paid. It appeared upon inquiry that the legislation of the State had never contemplated, or, at least, had never adequately provided for, the punishment of the class of offenders who were then preying upon the commercial metropolis. It was of the utmost importance that remedial legislation should be promptly procured. To this end it was arranged by Mr. Tilden that Charles O'Conor, William M. Evarts, and himself, should all offer themselves as candidates to the Legislature at the election of 1871. Circumstance conspired to prevent the two former gentlemen from standing at that election, but Mr. Tilden stood and was elected. During the ensuing session he gave most of his attention to the promotion of the objects for which he consented go to Albany, including the reform of the judiciary and the impeachment of the Judges who through Tweed and his confederates had acquired the control of the city. It came to his mowledge during the session that a large fund was raising for the corruption of the committee charged with the impeachment of the accused Judges. If spent, it proved unsuccessful. The effort which came near succeeding was made to defeat the ends of justice in the choice of managers. Here, again, the fortune of the day was saved by a proposition of Mr. Tilden's,

which was adopted, by which the selection

factory to the Bar Association. The prosecution

impeachments, the conduct of the suit to his choice of the public honors of the

of counsel for the prosecution was to be satis

which had been commenced on behalf of the city, and the gathering of the fruits of the various investigations he had made or instituted, occupled him during most of the summer of 1872, The results were the arrest, imprisonment, or flight of all of the parties who only a few years before seemed to hold the wealth and power of the Empire State in the hollow of their hands,

Gen. Grant's administration of the Presidency had proved a disappointment, and, but for the fantastic nomination of Horace Greeley by the Democratic Convention of 1872, his relection might have been successfully contested. The administration of Gen. Dix as Governor of New York had proved equally unsatisfactory. Both the Governor and the President seemed to be the passive instruments or victims of a class of parasitical politicians, in whose eyes the chief if not the only use of a Government was to enrich those who conducted it. Thoughtful men of all parties began to realize the necessity of placing the executive powers in dif ferent hands. The trial of Tweed and his confederates made notorious what before had been suspected by only a few; that they had derived most of their capacities for mischief from Alonny, and that, so far as New York was concerned, any substantial and durable reform nust begin at the State capital. Mr. Tilden spent the summer of 1873 in Eu-

rope, and on his return found that many influential men of all parties in New York were talking of him as the proper man to succeed Gov Dix. Mr. Tilden was slow to entertain these suggestions, for if he had any taste for official life, he had never yet betrayed it. Mr. Van Buren was heard to say of him once that he was the most unambitious man he had ever known From fifteen to twenty years of severe profes sional toll had yielded him an ample income; he and won reputation as a lawyer, as a statesman and as a patriot. His advice was valued in all natters of public concern, and by all par ties; he enjoyed to an uncommon degree the respect of the community in which he lived, and it was difficult for him to conceive of any change in his position that could improv it. To enter the arena of active politics would e certainly, for a time at least, a change for the worse. It would be to become the target of a postile partisan press, the envy of competitors, and the slave of an exacting public. It would e to concentrate upon himself the hostility of the large and powerful interests against which his election in the interest of reform would be ecessarily a declaration of war. It would be, in other words, to accept a life of war instead of a life of peace, at an age when the honors of war give but little pleasure, and the privileges of peace and repose begin to be perhaps unduly valued. Nor were those whom he was entitled to call his friends entirely unanimous in recommending him to expose himself to the risks of a defeat in the nominating Convention. Horatio Seymour, who had twice been Governor, once an unsuccessful candidate for the Presidency, and who was suspected of a willingness to take the risks of a second nomination, wrote to Mr. Tilden only a few days before the State Convention that his chances of securing the nomination were not good, while, if nominated, the most he could hope for was the martyr's crown, or, as Swift expressed himself in a letter to the Archbishop of Dublin, "to be rewarded with a

good conscience and detraction. Mr. Tilden did not permit himself to entertain the idea of becoming the candidate of his party for Governor until he had satisfied himself that all who were supposed to have any reasonable aspirations for the honor had confessed their unwillingness to face the risk of running against Gen. Dix, who had been chosen two years before by a plurality of 53,451. Nor even then, probably, would Mr. Tilden have accepted a nomination, had he seen any other way of reviving the confidence of the people in their ability to reform and purify the Government, of which they were despairing. To take the field himself seemed to the best if not the only method of demonstrating that a fearless and persistent resistance to wrong would be sustained by the people, and that honesty, courage, and capacity are as well rewarded in public life as in any other profession or pursuit. He was unwilling to leave it in the power of the enemies of reform to say that he dared not submit his conduct as a resecutor of Tweed and his confederates in the city and State to the judgment of the people; e was unwilling to give them the opportunity of using his refusal to run, as evidence that his course had impaired his influence and as a warning to the rising politicians of the country gainst following his example. He felt that whatever might be his success as a Governor, the moral effect of his election would be advantageous, not only in his own State, but in other States, where such an example was no less needed than in New York. These considerations no doubt had much, not to say a controlling influence, in determining Mr. Tilden to yield to the wishes of his friends, and to resume the responsibilities of party leadership. No sooner had he reached this decision than he set to work in a thorough-going way not only to be cominated, but elected. He put himself in relation with every township in the State, and inspired his desponding partisans with hope, to which for many years they had been strangers.

As the time for the meeting of the nominating Convention approached, the prospects of elect ing a Democratic Governor did not appear hopeless, and those who had refused to allow their names to be used to conduct what they regarded as a foriorn hope, began now to intrigue for the privilege of reaping where they had not sown. The State Conventions of both the great parties in the State for many years had been controlled by the canal contractors, to whom the selection of the Canal Commissioners and State Engineer and his assistant, who passed upon their work, was of vital importance. To them, the tendency of public sentiment in the direction of a man of Tilden's record and independence was ominous. They tried to discourage him from allowing his name to go before the Convention "when the political skies were so threatening;" and, at the same time, to stem the popular move ment in his favor, they exaggerated the unpopularity he had incurred by his war upon the pred atory horde of the Tweed school in New York city. They suggested, in fine, that it would more prudent to take a candidate not identified with the ring prosecutions. The more this suggestion was pressed, the more determined became Mr. Tilden to secure the nomination, and that the Democratic party of the State took substantially the same view as he did of the attempts to flank the reform movement, was made evident at Syracuse, where, on Sept. 17, 1874, he was nominated without serious pposition, and with unequivocal enthusiasm of the first ballot. The reception given to his nomination by the press of the country presaged the triumph which awaited the ticket at the ballot box. Mr. Tilden was not only elected in November, 1874, but whatever lessons were to be taught by large majorities were not wanting to lend éclat to his triumph. His plurality over his Republican competitor was 53,315, or about the amount of Dix's plurality in 1872. The aggregate change of the vote of the State was over 100,000, or about one-fifth of its total voting contation. It was practically a revolution which the name of Tilden had inspired,

It is pointed out by the biographer that when Mr. Tilden became Governor, on Jan. 1, 1875, he brought to his position a measure of professional training, of political and financial skill. and practical knowledge of men, whether in mass or in detail, which, perhaps, had never before been combined in an equal degree in any Chief Magistrate of the Empire State. His life seemed to have been a preparation for the work to which he had been called. In his youth he had learned from the struggles of the Democratic party with the United States Bank, the folly of an unsecured [currency as the basis of industrial and commer cial exchanges, and the demoralizing influence upon society of the reckless system of credit to which it gave birth. During a period of more than fifty years he had lived in constant and familiar intercourse with the ruling men of the country, and enjoyed opportunities of appreciating its varying political situations during that long period under every advantage and of appropriating their lessons. Though much of that time in a position that entitled him

country, he had never been, as we have said, an office holder nor the solicitor for himself of any official post at the hands of a political party. During his twenty years' hard service at the bar, he had established a reputation in his chosen department of the legal rofession to which it will scarcely seem exaggerated praise to say that no other man in the United States could make pretension. Finally, although often deploring its measures, he had adhered to the Democratic party from a con-viction that his power for usefulness to the country was greater inside than outside that organization. The Legislature which shared with Gover-

nor Tilden the responsibilities of the State Government in 1875 was divided, the Republicans having the ascendancy in the Senate and the Democrats in the Assembly. It was apparent, therefore, that strictly party measures would have small chance of success, while the power conferred upon the Governor by the amended Constitution, of vetoing the separate items of appropriation bills made him ultiresponsible for any extravagance mately in legislation. Mr. Tilden had nominated as the prophet and apostle of reform. With a divided Legislature Albany and a hostile Administration at Washington, how would be make good his pledges? How realize the hopes and expectations of his friends? Whose interests were be prejudiced or improved by his recommenda tions? What defections from his following were to be apprehended? What new political alliances were to be anticipated? Was he, in fine, to prove a statesman or only a partisan politician? If the former, would be succeed or fail? These were some of the questions which had been the subject of speculation during the interval between his election and his inaugura tion, and which lent unusual interest to his first official message to the Legislature.

IV. The interest was increased rather than dimin-

ished by its publication. The message produced

a profound impression not only within but be

yond the boundaries of the State. The present blographer, Mr. Bigelow, pronounces it unquesmunication that had ever been addressed to the Legislature of the Empire commonwealth, as it was apparently the first one to be extensively printed in the newspapers of other States. In it was foreshadowed with distinctness the follow ing controlling aims: First, reform in the administration; secondly, the restoration of the financial principles which triumphed in the election of Jackson and Van Buren, and left the country, for the first in its history, without a dollar of in-debtedness, and with unrivalled credit. Thirdly, the cheerful and unconditional acceptance of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth amendments of the Federal Constitution. In furtherance of the first aim, administrative reform. Mr. Tilden recommended a revision of the law intended to provide penal and civil remedies for fraud committed by public officers and their accomplices. These recommendations, which were carefully wrought during the same session into the legislation of the State, bore especially upon those forms of administrative abuse which the exposure and arrest of William M. Tweed had recently revealed, and also upon a kindred class of abuses in the management of the State canals, with which the Governor was already ac quainted and which were soon to be the theme of what was destined to prove the most im portant communication made by him to the Legislature. The feature of his message, however, which, at the time, produced the most profound impression not only upon the Governor' immediate constituents, but upon the whole nation, was that which related to the financial policy of the Federal Government. Till then no prominent Democrat had ventured since the war to revive the financial traditions and policy which were still associated in the public mind with the historic triumphs of the Democratic party. Wild and silly notions of repairing the waste of war and restoring the depressed energies of industry and commerce by un limited issues of irredeemable surrency had infected large sections of the country. A generation had grown up which had never seen or used any other money than a printed promise of the Government and it had become a widespread conviction among the aspiring politicians of both the great parties that the current of public opinion is favor of an inflated and irredeemable currency would overwhelm and destroy any public man who should attempt to stem it. No convention of either party in any State of the Union had yet risked the experiment. The active leaders of both parties had either avoided the question, or yielded to the current. Governor Tilden, however, had no those who yielded to them. Nor did he fail to avail himself of the first opportunity of brand ing them from the Executive chair as delusions. The biographer dwells at length upon the views he presented in this message, for the reason that they possess an interest that is neither local nor transitory. They concern now and hereafter, as they concerned then, all who are charged with the responsibility of government With reference to Mr. Chase's policy of raising money for the prosecution of the war by the forcible circulation of an irredeemable currency. the Governor said: "There is no doubt that the issue of legal tenders during the civil war hastened and greatly increased that inflation of prices which naturally resulted from the increased consumption and the waste caused by military operations, and from the diminished production occasioned by so large a with drawal of workers from their ordinary industry." Mr. Tilden's own conception of what would have been the true financial policy of the country during the war had been expressed by him to Mr. Stanton. and was outlined in our previous notice of this biography. He restated that conception in his anything to attract one. message, and he proceeded to dispose of the fallacy lurking in many minds, and by which the army of inflationists has been largely recruited, that the quantity of the currency, even when it has become quiescent and stationary, creates by its direct action a state of prices pro portionate to its quantity. He then stated the conditions upon which, in his inde ment, the Federal Government might and should resume specie payments, and upon which it ultimately did resume them resume them without encountering the slightest practical difficulty. The message closed with an appeal to the people which is as timely to-day as it wa when it was made: "For nearly a generation, the controversies which led to fratricidal cor tests, have drawn away the attention of the people from the questions of administratio which involve every interest and duty of good government. The cultured training and the practice of our people in the ordinary conduct of public affairs, have been falling into disuse Meanwhile, the primitive simplicity of institutions and of society, in which government wa little felt and could be neglected with comparative impunity, has been passing away. If public necessities must wring so much from the earnings of individuals, taxation must become scientific. In our new condition all the prob lems of administration have become more difficult. They call for more intellect and more knowledge of the experience of other countrie They need to become the engressing theme of the public thought in that discussion by the press, and in that competition of parties which constitute the process of free institutions,

This message was presented to the Legislature on Jan. 5, 1875. On March 19, that is to say a soon as Governor Tilden had secured from the Legislature such additional remedies for official delinquencies as were requisite, he invited the attention of the Legislature, in a special mesage, to the mismanagement of the canals.

The Canal Ring embraced, as the name it plies, about an equal proportion of both political parties. It consisted of men who had become wealthy by plundering the State as contractors and of political parasites who were indebted to them for their positions, and who, as agents of the State, certified their work and audited and paid their bills. Mr. Tilden had been for years familiar with their power and methods of operation, for he had frequently tried conclusion with them in which, when not defeated, his vic tories cost him nearly, if not quite, all they were worth. Knowing the power of the adver saries with whom he proposed to do battle, and

that he must not make any charge which he was not prepared to substantiate and maintain against all coniers, he had begun a secret investigation soon after his election. With the resuits of the inquiry before him, he prepared message which proved a surprise alike to the Legislature and the public. In it he set forth in detail the fraudulent processes by which, for an indefinite period, the State had been plundered its agents debauched, its politics demoralized and its credit imperilled. The Legislature though containing many notorious canal jobber and their political defenders, was obliged to yield to the irresistible impulse communicate by the Governor's message, and he was prompt y authorized by a joint resolution of Houses to appoint a committee of investigation

The distinction acquired by Mr. Tilden during the first year of his term in the office of Gov rnor made him one of the most prominent can didates for the Democratic nomination for the Presidency. It was with anything but com placency that the other aspirants for the prize mong whom Hendricks, Thurman, Bayare and Hancock were conspicuous witnessed the growing favor with which Mr. Tilden was re garded throughout the country. Their discon-tent was more or less disclosed at the Utics Convention at which delegates were chosen t attend the National Convention that was nominate a President at St. Louis on June 2' 1876. Relying on the sympathy of the preda tory class which had felt the weight of the Gov ernor's hand, Mr. Tilden's opponents sought t prevent at Utica the expression of a preference for his nomination, so that the delegates migh be left free and accessible to such influences a competing candidates might bring to bear upor him. These efforts were unsuccessful. The friends of the Governor in the State Convention

were in an irresistible majority, and constituted much the largest part of the delegation to S Louis: to guard, moreover, against any treach ery on the part of the disaffected, the Conven ion instructed the delegates to act and vote a unit. When the National Convention met, ar nformal ballot disclosed such a decided par lality for Mr. Tilden that he was nominated or the second ballot by 535 votes out of 738. The nomination proved popular in the country and encountered few, if any, irreconcilable enemies except among representatives of the predatory class, who, if he should be elected, were sure to be brought to judgment. There was a general feeling that, of all our public men, Mr. Tilder was the only one who had given unequivoca evidence of the ability and the disposition to cope with the enemies of the national house hold. Party ties, however, and the nomination of Hendricks for the Vice-Presidency, prevented distinct public expression of this feeling or the part of the Republican press, though they did not suppress their recognition of the signifi-

cance of the nomination. Here Mr. Tilden's biography abruptly ends We must believe, however, that Mr. Bigelow contemplates the publication at some futur time of a third volume, wherein the story of the fraud, first triumphant in American nationa history, by which Mr. Tilden was deprived of the honor awarded to him by the people will be recounted in detail. This inference seems justified by the words which Mr. Bigelow has pre fixed to his second volume. After expressing the well-founded hope that the contribution to the facilities for the study of his subject's life pre sented in these pages will be not without some value, Mr. Bigelow says, "When the passions and prejudices engendered by political strife shall, as in due time they will, subside, Mr. Tilden's place among the foremost and wisest statesmen of our country will be cheerfully recognized. If, however, I owe to his memory, as I suppose I do, any further duty as a friend and patriot, it is a duty which my increasing years admonish me must not be deferred."

M. W. H. Count Tolstol Visited by an American. It is a useful as well as attractive book which ISABELLE F. HAPGOOD has given us under the name of Russian Rambles (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.). The author's purpose is to describe the common incidents of every-day life in Russia which, in this country, are either not known at all, or grotesquely misunderstood. It is true enough that people frequently go to Russia with the deliberate expectation and intention of secing queer things. Their general idea seems to be that they will find in the Czar's dominions the Russia of Ivan the Terrible. As the reality is decidedly tame in comparison, they feel bound to supply the missing spice. The author tells us that she was informed that she must abuse Russia if she wished to be popular in the United States. That is a mistake, and we are glad that she did not allow herself to be influenced by this absurd admonition. There is no Eurotoleration for such delusions, nor much for pean people for which intelligent Americans. familiar with the history of their own country have more sympathy, or to which they recog nize so large an indebtment. In three memora ble crises Russia has rendered a great service to

the American republic. Among the thirteen chapters of this volume we have read with especial interest that which describes a visit to the country home of Count Toistoi. The author is not one of those who are accustomed to call the great Russian writer 'crazy" or " not quite right in the head," and so on She regards him simply as a man with a hobby or controlling idea. His idea happens to b one which, even if we admit that it ought to be generally adopted, must be recognized as difficult of adoption. It is an uncomfortable theory of self-denial, which very few people like to have preached to them in any form. Nor can it be denied that the expositions of his theory lack clearness; this circumstance seems to constitute the sole foundation for the reports of his mental aberrations. The author of this book found him on personal acquaintance to be a remarkably earnest, thoroughly convinced, and winning man, although he did not deliberately do or say

It appears that one winter's day in Moscov the Countess Tolstoi said to the author of this book: "You must come and visit us at Yasnaya Polyana (Clearfield) next summer. You should see Russian country life, and you will see it with us. Our house is not elegant, but you will find it plain, clean, and comfortable." Accordingly, the following June the author set out for Tula, and after passing the night in that town ordered a trolka and drove for some fifteen versts (ten miles) through a lovely rolling counry on a fine macadamized highway, leading to the South and to Kieff. We are told that the riews on either hand were wide, fresh and fair. Hay fields, plough fields, fields of green oats, ellowing rye, and blue-flowered flax, with birch trees in small groves near at hand, and forests in the distance, varied the scene. Evergreens it seems, were rarer here, and oak trees more elentiful, than they are north of Moscow. grass by the roadside was sown thickly with wild flowers-Canterbury bells, campanulas, yarrov pink and white, willow weed (used to adul terate tea), yellow daisies, pinks, corn flowers, yellow everlasting, deep crimson crans's and losts of other blossoms. last the troiks reached the stone gate osts, which marked the entrance to the park of Yasnaya Polyana, and was driven up the fornerly splendid and still beautiful avenue of huge white birch trees, from whose ranks many nated near the house in hedges of lilacs and cacies. Most of the family were away in the field or bathing in the river. But the visitor was cordially received and installed in room of the Count's eldest son, who was at his ousiness in St. Petersburg. Presently dinner was served on a long table under the trees, at a ittle distance from the house. The Count, who had been mowing, now appeared in a grayish blouse and trousers, and a soft, white linen cap, We are told that in complexion he looked ever ore weather beaten than he had in Mosco during the winter. His broad shoulders seemed preserve in their stoop a memory of recent toll. His manner, a unique combination of gentle simplicity, awkward, half-conquered con

sciousness, and half-discarded polish, was as

cordial as ever. His piercing, gray-green-blue

eves had lost none of their almost saturnine

were clad in the blouse suits of coarse gray linen

which are so common in Russia in the summer

and white linen caps. That evening, after tea,

withal, melancholy expression. His some

the Count happened to hit upon a couple of Mr. | table duet in place of the most diet on which he Rider Haggard's books for discussion, and, for the benefit of those in the compawho had not read it, gave the chief points of "She" in particularly lively style. He pronounced "She" and other works of Haggard "the lowest type of literature," and said people could go wild over them." It seems that Tolstoi reads everyting, good and bad, and possesses not only an omnivorous literary appetite but a wonderful memory for books, even is small details. Among the innumerable things which he peruses are Mormon publications, sent to him regularly from the headquarters of the sect. He told his visitor that he though very highly of the doctrines of the Mormons, as set forth by themselves, and could not under stand why they were "persecuted" in America "It is a shame," he said, "that, in a great and free country like America, a community of people should be so oppressed and not allowed that liberty of which she boasts," Count Tolstoi's latest book at the time of this visit was "What to Do?" In the final chapter of that work he had argued that woman's whole duty consists in marrying and having as large a family as possible. Nevertheless, in speaking of Mr. Howells's "The Undiscovered Country," he remarked in connection with the Shakers that 'it was a good thing that they did not marry.' He said this more than once, and at some length. Subsequently the visitor seized an opportunity to ask his wife how he could reconcile that re mark about the Shakers with his former creed that all women should marry. She answered that it certainly was not consistent, but that her husband changed his opinion every two years.

11. Another day, during a chat in his study, Count Tolstol praised Dickens. "There are three requi-

sites which go to make a perfect writer," he

"First, he must have something worth saying. Secondly, he must have a proper way of saying it. Thirdly, he must have sincerity. Dickens had all three of these qualities. Thackeray had not much to say; he had a great deal of art in saving it; but he had not enough sincerity. Dostôevsky possessed all three requisites. Nekrasoff knew well how to express himself, but he did not possess the first quality; he forced himself to say something, whatever would catch the public at the moment, of which he was a very keen judge. As he wrote to suit the popular taste, believing not at all in what he said, he had none of the third requisite." At still another time he got upon the subject of English things and ways. We are told that vhile speaking of those, the Count's eyes flashed. "The English are the most brutal nation on earth," he exclaimed. "Along with the Zulus, that is to say. Both go naked; the Zulus all day long, the English women as soon as dinner is served. The English worship their muscle; they think of it, talk of it. If I had time I should like to write a book on their ways. And then their executions, which they go to see as pleasure!" The American visitor asked which nation was a model, in his opinion, "The French," he answered, which, to the author o this book, seemed inconsistent, for he proceeded to tell of an execution which he had witnesser in Paris, where a father had lifted up his little child that it might have a good view of the horrors of the guillotine. "Defective as is Russian civilization in many respects," he said, "you will never find the Russian peasant like that He abhors deliberate murder, such as is an execution," "Yet," objected the visitor he will himself commit murder; there has been a perfect flood of murders reported in the newspapers this very spring. Those perpetrated in towns were all by men of the neasan class, and most of them were by lads under twenty years of age." Tolstoi insisted that his visitor must have misread the papers. So she proceeded to inquire "What will a peasant do in case of an execution?" Tolstoi answered: What he will do in case of an execution I can illustrate for you by something which occurred in this very neighborhood some years ago. The regimental secretary of a regiment stationed at Z— was persecuted by one of his offi-cers, who found fault with him continually, and even placed him under arrest for days at a time when the man had only obeyed his own orders. At last the secretary's patience failed him, and one day he struck the officer. A court martial followed. I was chosen to defend him. He was sentenced to death. I appealed to the Emperor through Mme. A-; you know her. For some reason she spoke to one of the Ministers. 'You have not stated the number of his regiment; that is ludispensable,' was the reply. Evidently this was a subterfuge that time might be consumed in correspondence, and that the pardon might arrive too late. The reason for this was, in all probability, that, just at this time, a soldier had struck an officer in Moscow and been condemned. If one were pardoned, in justice the other must be also. Otherwise discipline would suffer. This coincidence was awkward for the secretary strong as his case was, and he was shot." Tolstol went on to say that when the time for the execution came the Adjutant's hands trembled so with emotion that he could not apply the bandage to the prisoner's eyes. Others tried and gave it up. Well, as soon as that man was buried, his grave was covered with flowers, crosses, and all sorts of things by the peasants, who came many versts from all directions as to the grave of martyr. Masses for the dead were ordered there in uninterrupted succession by these poor peasants. The feeling was so intense and appeared to be spreading to such an extent the

111. While our author was staying at Yasnaya Polyana, the Count fell ill in consequence of vegetarian indiscretions and of triffing with his health in other ways during the excep tionally hot weather which prevailed. During this illness, he was persuaded to read "Look ing Backward," which his visitor had received just before leaving Moscow. We are told that at first he was very favorably impressed, and said that he would translate the book into Rus sian. He believed that this was the true way of ordering human life; that people should have literally all things in common, and so on. Our author suggested that matters would never arrive at the state described in "Looking Backward," unless this planet were visited by another deluge and no Noah was saved to continue our selfish species. She declared that nothing short of a new planet and a newly created race of Utopian angels would ever ge as far as the personages in that book. Tolstoi disagreed with her, and an argument ensued In the course of it he said that his only objection to "Looking Backward" lay in the degree of luxury in which the characters of the perfected scheme of society lived. "What harm," asked his visitor, "is there in comfort and luxury to any extent, provided that all enjoy then Luxury is all wrong," he answered severely, "You perceive the sinful luxury in which I live." waving his hand toward the excessively plain furniture, and animadverting with special bitterness on the silver forks and spoons. "It is all a fallacy that we can raise those below us by remaining above them. We must descend to their level in habits, intelligence, and life; then all will rise together." And again: "We certainly cannot change the position of a thing unless we go close enough to graspit; unless we are on the same plane with it.

the authorities were forced not only to prohibit

access to the grave, but even to level it off ac

that it could not be found. But an Englishman!

If he were told to cut the throat of his own

father and eat him, he would do it."

The author of this book thinks that every one must side with the Countess Tolstoi in her management of her family. It is owing solely to her that the younger members of the family are receiving that education to fit them for their struggle with life which her husband bestowed upon the elder members voluntarily. It is due to her alone that her husband is still alive, for it is not, it seems, an easy task to protoct the Count against himself. So far as he is concerned, there is not the slightest doubt that he would giadly attempt the communistic life which he advocates. But if he were to take up his residence in a peasant's cottage and try to support himself on what his labors brought in, he would be dead in less than a month. He suffers from liver disease. He has not been used to hard labor from early youth. He cannot at hisage accustom himself to it any more than he can compel his stomach to accept a purely vego-

has been brought up. Heatrives conscientiously to do it. Even the fits of illness caused by his severe treatment of himself do not break his resolution. He exercises not the slightest cal culation of forethought in the care of his health, either before it breaks down or afterward. For instance, about five years ago he bruised his leg seriously against the wheel of a peasant cart. Instead of resting he persisted ing. Erysipelas developed. The Tula doctor paid him numerous visits at fifteen apiece. Then gangrene was threatened, and s doctor was sent for from Moscow. He was celebrity, Price, 350 rubles. This, of course, was penny wise and pound foolish. But our author got the impression that the Count feels the responsibility of exerting his will in this matter of labor all the more because it does not come easy to him, and he, attributes to weakness of will power what a peasant would recognize as simple physical exhaustion. The peasant would not hesitate to climb to the top of his oven and stay there until his illness was over with not a thought whether the work were done or not, and yet the peasant would work far be youd the bounds of what one would suppo that a man could endure. But Count Tolsto overrates his powers of endurance, and, having exhausted his forces in one desperate spurt, he is naturally obliged to spend more than an equal amount of time in recuperating, even if no serious complication intervenes; this gives rise to the accusation of laziness and insincerity from those who chance to see him in one of these intervals of rest. He is also reproached with having made over his preperty to his wife with having made over his preperty to his wife, and with living as he did before he preached communistic doctrines. Our author, for her part, cannot see what other course is open to him. An unmarried man, under obligations to no one but himself, may reasonably be blamed for not carrying out the doctrine which he volunteers to teach the world. A married man can only be blamed for volunteering the doctrine. No blame can possibly attach to the wife who defends the interest of the family to the extent of working havos with his doctrines. Even if Count Tolstol were able to support himself, he certainly could not support a wife and the nine living children out of sixteen which he has had. Our author can see no justice in expecting the adult members of his family to accept and practise his doctrine. They do not compel him to accept theirs, though they are in the majority. Then, as to the little ones, they could not feed themselves, even were they ideal peasant children. Instead of saying that Tolstoi made over his property to his wife, it would be nearer the truth to say that the Countess took possession of the property; she administers it wisely and economically for the good of the family and her husband. She issued about five years ago a cheaper edition of her husband's works, the only edition previously available having been very expensive. The wisdom of the step was proved by the large profits derived in the course of three years \$50,000 all of which was applied to the needs of the family. and with living as he did before he preached

THE THEME IS DIALECT.

some Things that May Interest the American Dialect Boelety.

None of the speakers at the meeting of the new American Dialect Society at Columbia College made any allusion to the easy transferof dialect words. A philologist who attended the meeting, but could not get a chance to speak at it, made some interesting remarks to a SUN reporter upon the subject, after its adournment.

"It was about forty years ago," he said thoughtfully, "that I first noticed how easily one may pick up novel dialect words. While lving up in Vermont when I was young, I had a friend of my own age who struck out for the Western plains. About a year afterward I also went West to visit my friend in his shebang in the Territory of Kansas, where there were few Yankees, but plenty of Missourians and a good many darkies, as well as Indians, besides odds and ends from all parts of the country. I found very soon that my Vermont friend used dozens

many darkies, as well as Indians, besides odds and ends from all parts of the country. I found very soon that my Vermont friend used dozens of words that were new to me, the meaning of which he had learned during his year's stay in the Kansas prairies.

"You must know that Missouri is one of the best States in the Union for dialect on account of the peculiar mixture of its population and the circumstances of its settlement. There are words of the creole dialect, such as can be seen in the stories of George W. Cable, the French having been the early traders and settlers in all the regions from the Guif of Mexico to the furthest North. There are negro dialect words, for the reason that the African race has been scattered there for a hundred years. There are a few distorted Spanish words that got into our language through the Spanish-Mexicans and Lousianians who travelled up there. There are Indian words that became Missouri dialect through the intercourse of the whites with the many tribes who were the primitive inhabitants. There are English, Scotch, and Irish dialect words, which were brought to this country by the ancestors of the race now in the ascendant, and there are also old Yankee words of a dialect kind which were carried there after Jefferson's purchase, and have been retained till this time.

"My Vermont friend in Kansas had taken in perhaps fifty or a hundred of these wandering words of dialect by mingling with the settlers beyond the big river, and he made me laugh when I heard him speak them in his cabin. I found, however, that they were very handy, and I soon caught up with him in the use of them. I could give you specimens of the dialect words that were in vogue there, taken from at least five or six separate languages, and all wrought into the texture of the English speech: but it would be better that the American Dialect Society, the President of which did not give me a chance to speak at the meeting, should grapple with the subject, and make a particular study of the easy transferability of di

THE CHEF SURPRISED HIM. Discoveries Made by a Diner in the Kitchen

of a French Restaurant. A man who prides himself upon his knowledge of cookery complained the other night of a dish that was served to him in his favorite restaurant. The French waiter summoned the French proprietor, and the latter offered to make the dish so that it would satisfy. gentleman waited half an hour while the second experiment was made, but the result was no more satisfactory than the first. There was a vastamount of apologizing and shoulder shrugging on the part of proprietor and waiter, but neither seemed able to comprehend the cause of the patron's dissatisfaction. Two cause of the patron's dissatisfaction. Two friends of the kicker smiled at his discomfiture, and made unpleasant allusions to his mability to get what he demanded. They also suggested that the failure was due to him rather than to the restaurant. That made him determined to prove the correctness of his position.

"Let me see the cheft," he said to the propertor, "and I will show him how to make this property."

prove the correctness of his position.

"Let me see the chef." he said to the proprietor, "and I will show him how to make this properly."

The proprietor apologized for being unable to produce the chef. explaining that he was so busy in the kitchen that he could not leave.

"Well, then, I will go to him," said the gentleman, and jumping up from the table he rushed down the stairs leading to the kitchen.

The proprietor and waiter-both started at this, and jabbered at each other furiously. The former was evidently scolding and the latter protesting. Both appeared in danger of disconting their shoulders. Finally the proprietor waiked away, looking very much annoyed. The waiter stood aside with a scared look on his face. Presently the gentleman reappeared and resumed his seat at the table. He looked very solemn, but there was a twinkle in his eyes. The waiter watched him furrively, but nothing was said until one of the other diners, who recognized that the waiter's presence was exerting a reatraining influence on his friend, despatched him in search of some pickies. Then the kicker leaned back in his chair and langhed deeply but silently.

"This is the hest joke ever perpetrated on a guilible public," he said, "You know how much our genial inst and his talkative waiter have said about their fine chef, and you know how often they have insisted that no one but a Frenchman could cook snything decently. Well, you should see their grand chef. I almost elimin to the fire when I was introduced by the chief scullion. In the first place the chef wears skirts, and in the second is the possessor of as fine a brogue as ever went out of county Cork. Think of it, the clief of one of the best known metropolis is an Irish woman! But I'll tell you she grassed my idea about the cooking of this dish immediately, and we'll have it in first-class shape in a jiff."

The prediction was verified.

Comments on Various Topics by a Re-L-CONCERNING WEEDS. I went last Sunday to hear dear old Robers College, and he gave us a fine sermon, only les fine than himself. His cardinal thought was that in the Lord's garden there was no such thing as a weed, what we called weeds being just plants with values as yet undiscovered The theory is noble and generous; only like much more of the simple but stupendous radia calism of Christianity, mighty hard to work in daily life. I doubt if the world is ripe for it by a few dozen centuries, particularly when I come to consider some of the peculiar dimculties that would beset its application just now. The farmer, after tackling the moral issues presented by poverty grass, pigweed, and Canada thistic, could put in at least three score and ten years on the ethical conundrum, why the wild carrot has a tab root a foot long. Coming up a stage higher, we strike the uses of rats and mice, which, howto a jury of owls; while the sands of Long Island and the flats of New Jersey resound afar with the frantic slappings of the summer boarder, wrestling with the most familiar and obtrusive problem of all, the raison d'être of the mosquito-the lobbyist of Nature's legislature, always pushing his little bill. But when you come to the case of the Christian New Yorker, then, as usual, the most complex aspect of things presents itself. Heir as ne is alike of the centuries of the past and the civilization of the present, see what he has to face to live up to the high doctrine of the nonexistent weed. He has to imagine some wise cause for the creation of monsters like Caligula, Nero, and Philip II., of vermin like Ravaillad and Guiteau; of the ceremonials of Ashtaroth and Moloch and Juggernaut, the massacre of St. Bartholomew, the pirates of the Barbary States, the leprosy of Spanish conquest in America. He has to devise some scheme which shall account for the Mexican loco weed, the cobra di capello, the chewing of tobacco, the California railroad system, Mulberry Bend, polygamy, prohibition, spring poetry, book canvassers, and life insurance agents. He has to seek out the benign idea underlying the creation of Judas iscariot and Benedict Arnold, to find some warm impulse of kindness in the genesis of the chill Godkin, to discover the moral value to mankind of the crawling about on earth of Oscar Wilde. And when all these things are accomplished the supreme and culminating difficulty remains of reconciling with divine benevolence the existence and career of the unspeakable Pulitzer.

Verily, the theory of weeds may turn out to be fundamentally correct by A. D. 1895 is "no slouch of a contract." cause for the creation of monsters like Caligula,

THE MAN FROM BROOKLYN.

II .- A COUPLE OF COINCIDENCES.

evoive its accuracy from A. D. 1895 is "no slouch of a contract."

II.—A COUPLE OF COINCIDENCES.

Some little time ago I heard of an occurrence that took place at Broadway and Chambers street on a cable car, and incidentally it was stated that no one saw it because there was no other venicle on the block. As this was in the middle of the afternoon it seemed incredible till I tested it personally. Twice I have seen that very condition of things right there, once on the block below Chambers and once on the block below Chambers and once on the block between John and Fuiton, and yesterday morning at 10 o'clock there was a similar vacuum of vehicles on the block between Cortlandt and Liberty. Below and above, Broadway was full enough of wagons going both ways. It reminded me of the passagoway for the israelites through the Red Sea. New York 'is full of such things if only one happens or is ille enough to observe them. On a priori reasoning, or principles of average, the odds apparently would be millions to one against such an event; yet I have seen it four times within a short period.

Some might say here that the man who looks for such things is the only man who finds them. Let me set against that another experience of mine to the contrary. For something over six years I have looked at the number of every railway car I passed, trying to hit one whose number was an even thousand. I have never hit yet. Once, on the Lehigh Valley road, I thought I had. I spled a row of brand-new cool cars just out of the shop on a switch. The numbers began at 1980 and ran up in regular order, and I have never histive trembled with the joy of fruition that only a crank knows. There were just twenty of them, and the last number was 1999.

The most aggravating circumstance of all was that a friend of mine to whom I toid my quest in 1892 on my way to the city of Mexico came galloping through the train inside of an hour to tell me he had just seen an even-thousanded car as we pulled out of San Luis Potosi, and I have never from the contrac

III.-A PLEASANT DRINK.

I have never forgiven that icilow to this day.

III.—A PLEASANT DRINK.

The Anglo-Saxon's piratical ancestors were not an especially ingenious race. It came much more natural to them to get what they wanted by robbing some one else of it than by making it for themselves. Still, they do seem to have devised one great thing—beer. Originally, like minstrels' jokes and other ancient inventions, it was mighty poor stuff, as is obvious from the dunderheaded and fuddied goings-on of the gods and giants of their sagas: for the mythical anead which was once the alleged tuple of Walhalla has in the light of recent investigation turned out to be a piain case of beer. Vide Wagner, "Der Katzenjammer in der Gotterdämmerung," Lipsie, 1891.) But had or good, improved or unimproved, for better or worse, it has been the inspirer of Teutonic exertion and the solace of Teutonic repose from the von Tronege Hagen to our own homes, and now it has colonized other lands, and become a permanent addition to the gayety and gastritis of nations.

But the prolific genius that summoned beer out of nothingness has not died in childbirth; it has brought forth a second drink which is to the first as a graceful little sister to a burly high brother. I do not mean the imperial punch of last Tuesday's festivities, which may have been something novel, or may have been ordinary punch encountering a particularly thirsty Kaiser; I mean the excellent potion named May wine. Its basis is simple; it is just German white wine infused with an herb the Germans call waldmentater. I had a hard time and a funny time trying to find out what waldmentater. I had a hard time and a funny time trying to find out what waldmentater was in English, but I did find out. It is the fragrant woodruff (Asperul odorata). These are the fundamental ingredients; but on this foundation German artists in fluids lave constructed many May wines, mostly differing as sweetly among themselves as Thalberg's variations on "Home, Sweet Home." I am sorry this foundation German artists in fluids have constructed many May wines, mostly differing as sweetly among themselves as Thalberg's variations on "Home, Sweet Home." I am sorry to add that among them are abnormal outgrowths of depraved taste or inadequate study. There are sciolists who exasperate May wine with lemon, and a few Hengel who distinger and disintegrate it with a sprig of mint; and I met one friend who suggested a dash of klimmel. I had as soon imbue it with the poison of asso:

The foremost architects of this liquid poem are like enthedral builders, simple and severe may their style and eschewing all gaudy ornamentation. Here and there they may light up a space with a bit of orange peel, gently spiralled, or even tamper lightly with an occasional floating strawberry; but good Khine wine and emismeister are the pillars of the temple, and for their further effect they rely entirely on interior decoration. And as an interior decoration May wine is grand. Go next week and try if. Try it with the proper adjuncts; another good feilow for company, a plateful of pretzels, and a spare hour. Partaken of in German moderation, say a quart or two apiece, it will theer and possibly not nebriate you, and will fill you with peace and good will to men and blessings on its unknown but sublime inventor.

BHARESPEARE IN INDIA.

A Baboo Bill of the Play.

From the St. James's Gazette. The following announcement of a grand shakespearean performance of Phelonocut a native place of entertainment was recently circulated in the city of Benares:

Shakespearean performance of promise a multive place of entertainment was recently circulated in the city of Benares:

WELL COME.

IP DON'T PURGET I WELL COME,
The INDIAN EMPIRES BILLAMATIC COY.

Of Benares.

At Matho has Shamin a tarsich.

Close to the Prince of Waise Reputal Benares.

Will first Purformance.

Will first Purformance.

TO SHORT: TO SHORT BOTA THE MOST Trapic Purformance.

Will first Purformance.

TO SHORT: TO SHORT BOTA THE MOST TRAPE PURSANA BOTA BOTA THE MOST TRAPE PURSANA BOTA BOTA THE MOST TRAPE PURSANA WILL COME BILLAME!

Wonderful Scones and Sceneries, Brilliam Dresses and Frameouts, tentha a cort and Actressess.

IF COME ONE SHORT WILL COME BILLAME!

BY LONG ONE SHORT WILL COME BILLAME!

FIRST PURSANA WITH due respect and humble submission I bear leave to state that I have taken the contract on the missian the piece chosen to be given by FISHANA HOSH ILCHA.

The last plat of this play is taken from Shakespeare a famous play of other has and a stand guarantee classes the play is a nice one and will be shown with the best assents and scenery, made specially for this play made show in the submission of the most of the play are worth attention and show the first play the chart will be decorated with charter than the scene of Jungle and a long-bearded plons made on the grant of the much and skill of the planter will be shown of garden with a bridge, therein, and a piver flowing from below. A very beautiful sight in the Jungle and the furniture.

2. The scene of garden with a bridge, therein, and a piver flowing from below. A very beautiful sight in the garden. The nauch party is held in the particle.

And these such a would be to a structive to make nearting of the first in the garden. The nauch party is held in the particle well shows and seeme a river flowing by two assessed with a bit, bundle of clothes on their back we was seen as a river flowing in the garden.

their sweet songs and showing their best practical the art of darchit.

4 Washerman's scene—a river flowing by two assess with a id, bundle of clothes on their back assess with a id, bundle of clothes on their back washerman's loke with asses. A very come so languable scene.

5 Trage scenes toward the close of the draman, be so effective and touching the speciators sheet best and close spoing with a sword drawn and back sense. Accides going with a sword drawn and back with anger near the best of bestcoming, her sense as that words are very heart reading her school and agontizing a painful sight.

To be followed by a very interesting and interest fare of county an ability makes.

I promise te show more than I have written in the program. Yours faithfully,

BATES FOR ADMISSION.

First Class Rs. 2. 2nd Class. Re. 1. 3nd Class at 5.

4th Class at 4. Twalfan City Re 1. Parda Females Re 1.